

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, April 1877, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel G. Hubbard to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. probably April 1877 (1875?) (first part missing)

Journal says Mr. Gray may possibly have been the first to conceive of the idea of transmitting conversation, but you were the one that did it and would have done it — if he had never thought of it. If your instrument and his were in one respect alike it was merely coincidence not plagiarism, and above all yours worked and his never did, there is no reason to show that he did have the idea or do the thing in 1874. I thought you would be pleased that these two papers did you justice, the Philos was not so decided but still said that the motive was to upset your claim, but it did not believe it would succeed in England. Shall I send you the papers, they were a big bundle and cost a lot for stamps.

Berta does not like my picture, she thinks the coloring too fair, the cheeks too thin, the mouth and eyes wrong, the hair too light. A pretty sweeping judgement, but neither sister nor I think the hair too dark, and the artist means to change all the other features. She liked the shape of the forehead very much. I don't know if Mr. Andrews will do much more until you come.

Goodbye with very much love, Your own loving, Mabel. Thank you for writing to me. I do enjoy heading from you, but